ADDENDUM

Harford County Jail HA-2063 45 South Main Street Bel Air, Harford County 1830 c. Public

The following information was provided after the survey was completed by Mr. Terry Noye. Mr. Noye has been researching the Harford County Jail for the eventual purposes of writing a book.

The draft for the specifications for building the first Gaol (jail) in Bel Air reads as follows:

"To be 35 feet by 30 with 2 feet walls built with stone and lime, a cellar under the whole, partition walls agreeable to the plan filed, one-fourth part of the cellar to be arched for a dungeon – the cellar all through to be 7 feet high – to be built two stories above the cellar, each story to be eight feet between the floors, the two lower rooms to be well lined with two inch oak plank well spiked, and lathed and rough plastered on the plank, except the Gaoler's room which is to be complete, convenient timbers to be placed in the walls all through the Gaol house to spike the lining to, the sleepers and joists not to extend 6 inches apart in any one place, the roof to be well raftered, beamed, lathed and covered with cypress shingles, the windows to be well secured with iron, the doors to be made double of two inch plank well spiked together and well hung, with sufficient locks and bolts, four windows in each room, 12 lights in each window, 8 by 10, two windows in the front of the Gaol house, two back and two in each end Upper story – Three windows in front and three back of the same size as the lower story, a fire place in each room; the two lower floors to be well laid with two inch oak plank well spiked, the Gaoler's room middle floor excepted, which is to be laid with 1 ¼ inch oak plank.

Prior to the building of the first jail, rooms and/or buildings were rented to house prisoners. The new 3-story jail was completed in 1857. The Grand Jury report of November 28, 1857 indicates that the new jail was examined and found to be strong and well built.

No other additions or modifications were made to the jail until 1913.

During the summer of 1912, the County Jail Improvement Committee was formed, and on August 12, 1912, met with consulting architect Otto Simonson, of Baltimore, and considered various plans.

At a joint meeting with the County Commissioners on November 27, 1912, the Committee submitted the plans for remodeling the jail was submitted to the County Commissioners. At the conclusion of this meeting, the County Commissioners directed the Committee to obtain bids on the plans.

The Pauly Jail Building Company, of St. Louis, Missouri, was the successful bidder for the remodeling contract. The plans had been modified somewhat to include eighteen steel cells, three tiers of six each with an areaway between the cells and the outside wall. One steel cell on the ground floor for insane prisoners was also built.

The contract price for the upgrade and modification of the jail was \$9,900. It was completed in September, 1913."

CAPSULE SUMMARY

Harford County Jail HA-2063 45 South Main Street Bel Air, Harford County 1830 c. Public

The jail has a rectangular footprint, is constructed of parged random rubble, rises three stories in height and is capped with a hipped roof covered with slate tiles. The walls and foundation of the main block are covered with stucco and the roof features wide boxed eaves. It is possible that the upper stories were added at a later date due to their substantially thinner walls compared to the first story, which is five feet thick. Physical evidence at the time of the survey did not verify whether this structure was built all at once or not. Surrounding the main block of the jail are five additions.

The County Jail is significant as an early nineteenth century county jail that has undergone several historic alterations and additions to the original building. It is a vernacular structure without any embellishments, which is typical of County Jails of the region from the first half of the nineteenth century. The original jail from the 1790s was demolished and rebuilt in the early nineteenth century to support a more secure jail structure, a common occurrence throughout many towns in the region. The replacement jail that now stands was most likely a one-story structure that was then added on to around the mid- to late-nineteenth century to incorporate a second and third story. It also has several historic additions that are significant representing the change in social attitudes in separating females and males as well as juveniles. It retained its use as the County Jail for approximately 140 years from circa 1830 to 1973. This jail signifies the concept of creating a highly secure building with regard to the health and comfort of detainees using five foot wide stone walls on the ground floor, large steel frame windows that allow light and ventilation, and shower stalls and laundry chutes.

Inventory No. HA-2063

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

	Property		preferred nar		-			
historic	Harford County	Jail						
other								
2. Location								
street and number	45 South Main	Street					not for	publication
city, town	Bel Air						vicinity	A
county	Harford County						· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
3. Owner of	Property	(give names	and mailing a	ddresses of a	ll owners)			
name	Harford County	Commissioners						
street and number	220 South Mair	Street				telephone	N/A	1500. 000.000.000.000
city, town	Bel Air		s	state MD		zip code	21014	
city, town 5. Primary L	Bel Air ocation of		al Data	tax parcel	892	tax i	D number	011119
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7	Des	cri	nti	on
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Inventory No. HA-2063

Condition

	_excellent	deteriorated
	_ good	ruins
X	fair	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Site Description

The Harford County Jail is located at the rear of 45 South Main Street, which is the Harford County Sheriff's Office. To the southeast is Courtland Street and to the northeast is Burns Alley, which runs the length of one block between Courtland Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The Jail is located directly across Main Street from the County Courthouse, to the rear of the building is a small paved parking lot.

Exterior Description

The current jail appears to date to the second quarter of the nineteenth century, possibly around 1830. The jail has a rectangular footprint, is constructed of parged random rubble, rises three stories in height and is capped with a hipped roof covered with slate tiles. The walls and foundation of the main block are covered with stucco and the roof features wide boxed eaves. It is possible that the upper stories were added at a later date due to their substantially thinner walls compared to the first story, which is five feet thick. However, it is typical in masonry construction for the upper stories to be thinner than the ones previous. Physical evidence at the time of the survey did not verify whether this structure was built all at once or not. Documentary evidence does proves that the jail was three stories in height by 1863.¹

Surrounding the main block of the jail are five additions. First, a two-story flat-roof, concrete-block section was added on the northeast elevation (rear) in 1940-1941. This addition housed the women's jail cells and was used to detain juveniles. In the 1940s, the flat-roof, one-story addition on the northwest elevation was added which houses the kitchen and mess hall. A circa 1925 addition on the southeast elevation was torn down and replaced with a one-story, concrete-block addition in the 1950s. According to the Sanborn Maps, the addition located on the rear between the two 1940s additions was constructed after 1959. In 1963, the Sheriff's house (built 1817) was demolished and the Harford County Office Building was constructed on the southwest elevation of the County Jail.

The southeast elevation of the main block depicts one window on both the second and third stories each comprised of six rows of awning metal windows each with six lights. Historic photos show the first story also had a similar window. The southeast elevation of the 1940 addition is pierced with one 4-flush panel metal door flanked by a window bay that contains six rows of 6-light metal awning windows. The southeast, northeast, and northwest elevations of the second story are pierced with a similar window, however, it has seven rows of awning windows. The southeast elevation of the 1950s addition contains one pair of 3-light metal awning windows with a concrete sill flanked by a flush/1-light metal door. Covering the full-width of this addition on the southeast elevation is a flat-roof porch supported with metal posts.

The rear elevation of the main block does not depict any openings. The rear elevation of the 1940 section is clad with aluminum siding. The rear elevation of the mess hall addition is pierced with one 48-light fixed metal window flanked by two 36-light metal fixed windows on the first story. Concrete steps descend to the basement entrance, which contains a metal flush door with a brick surround on one side. The rear elevation of the 1960s addition to the jail contains a modern flush plywood door. Flanking the entry an opening was made in the wall for an air conditioning unit. A shed-roof porch enclosed with a locked metal fence was constructed on the rear elevation of the 1940 and 1960s additions to provide cover for police bikes.

¹ Aegis, March 6, 1863.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Harford County Jail Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

Interior Description.

The interior of the main block is an open plan with four jail cells on the northeast wall and a corridor on the southwest wall. The jail cells are connected and are enclosed within a cell block with steel bars and a prisoner corridor that connects each of the cells. The southwest wall on the first floor also contains the main entry. A straight-flight stair is located on the southeast wall of the first and second floors. A secondary entrance into the main block is through the women's jail, the 1940 addition on the rear. The floors throughout the main block are poured concrete, the ceiling and interior walls were constructed of solid steel.

A wood-frame partition wall was constructed between the third and fourth jail cells on the first floor soon after 1973. This wall is clad with vertical board siding and the fourth jail cell area is also clad with vertical board siding and has dropped ceiling tiles. The fourth jail cell was then accessed from a steel jail door on the northwest wall by way of the mess hall added in the 1940s. This opening in the northwest wall was used to bring food to the prisoners. This section was partitioned off to be used as a storage area for recovered stolen property and drugs.

The main entry on the southwest wall consists of an entry vestibule with a thick steel exterior door accessed from what used to be the Sheriff's house and now the County Office Building. The vestibule is approximately five feet deep (the depth of the stone wall). A second door of the vestibule provides access to the jail cells. This steel door is constructed with eight steel rails (including the top and bottom rails) and between each rail is metal screening. The door also is covered with vertical steel bars. At eye level, a half-round section protrudes out into the jail section, which allows a guard to look down the corridor while keeping the door closed. This door also has a lock box and a steel pull handle. The northwest wall of the first floor corridor appears to be a partition wall that is clad with vertical-board siding. The southeast wall of the cell block on each floor has a feeding port where food was served without allowing guards to enter the cell block. Adjacent to the feeding port is the steel door to the cell block controls. The first floor cell block originally had a metal plate on the door to the cell block controls. This plate reads "Van Dorn Cell Construction and Cell Door Locking Devices" and lists nine patents as well as other patents pending. It also reads "Manufactured by the Van Dorn Iron Works Company, Prison Cell Builders, Cleveland, Ohio." Each flight of stairs in the main block is a closed-stringer, steel, staircase with a round steel railing. Between the second and third stalls on each floor is a shower.

Entrance into the women's jail is through the exterior door on the southeast wall or through the main jail on the northeast elevation. The first floor of this section consists of two rooms, office and juvenile detention room. A quarter-turn stair is located on the northeast wall of the women's jail. The stair is a closed-stringer, steel stair with a steel balustrade. The floor is poured concrete, and the concrete block walls are parged. A steel door on the northwest wall on the first floor provides access to the juvenile detention room. This door has three horizontal steel straps and one vertical steel strap. It also has an eye-level viewing door for guards to look into the juvenile's room without opening the entire door. The ceiling features partially exposed joists and steel beams and there is a five-inch high metal baseboard around the perimeter of the room. The juvenile detention room has been altered to serve as an office and originally contained two cells. The walls are clad with pressed vertical boards. Four jail cells for women are located on the second floor off the southwest wall. A corridor accesses each of the cells and is illuminated with awning windows on each end. The floor on the second level is metal. Each stall contains a shower stall and a laundry chute.

8. Signific	ance			Inventory No. HA-2063
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and j	ustify below	0
1600-1699 1700-1799 _X 1800-1899 _X 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology X architecture art commerce communications X community planning conservation	economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement	health/medicine industry invention landscape archited law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government cture religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates	1830s, 1940		Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction da	ates c. 1830, 1940s, 1940	s, 1960s		
Evaluation for:				
	National Register	N	flaryland Register	Xnot evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Statement of Significance

The County Jail is significant as an early nineteenth century county jail that has undergone several historic alterations and additions to the original building. It is a vernacular structure without any embellishments, which is typical of County Jails of the region from the first half of the nineteenth century. The original jail from the 1790s was demolished and rebuilt in the early nineteenth century to support a more secure jail structure, a common occurrence throughout many towns in the region. The replacement jail that now stands was most likely a one-story structure that was then added on to around the mid- to late-nineteenth century to incorporate a second and third story. It also has several historic additions that are significant representing the change in social attitudes in separating females and males as well as juveniles. It retained its use as the County Jail for approximately 140 years from circa 1830 to 1973. This jail signifies the concept of creating a highly secure building with regard to the health and comfort of detainees using five foot wide stone walls on the ground floor, large steel frame windows that allow light and ventilation, and shower stalls and laundry chutes.

Early Development of Bel Air

In 1773, Harford County was formed from Baltimore County and named after Henry Harford, the illegitimate son of the last Lord Baltimore. A ballot was cast in 1782 to determine the final location of the county seat. Scott's Old Fields, later to become known as Bel Air, became the sixth and final county seat of Harford County.² This area totaling nearly twenty-four acres was originally purchased and divided by Aquila Scott. He divided the parcels into forty-two half-acre lots that measured 74.5 feet wide and 297 feet deep. The village was comprised of a central Main Street and three smaller side streets.³ By 1784, four buildings were built on Main Street and many of the lots purchased from Scott around this time were speculative ventures. Just prior to the turn-of-the-nineteenth century the population was approximately 160 people and the town consisted of a court house, jail, four inns, three general stores, a blacksmith's shop, and seventeen or eighteen dwellings.⁴ By 1810, the population reached nearly 200 persons with approximately thirty dwellings, five general stores, and three inns. The mid-nineteenth century saw the introduction of the Harford Mutual Insurance

² Marilynn M. Larew, Bel Air: An Architectural and Cultural History, 1782-1945 (Bel Air, MD: Town of Bel Air, 1995), pp. 7-8.

³ Larew, pp. 10-11.

⁴ Larew, pp. 16-17.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Harford County Jail Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Company started in 1842, and the Odd Fellows Hall dedicated in 1853.⁵ By 1858, the streets within Bel Air included Main Street, Bond Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, Broadway, Gordon Street, Office Street, Courtland Street, Green Street, Port Deposit Avenue, and the Baltimore Turnpike.⁶ According to an analysis of the 1850 census, there were thirty-five households with a total of 249 people in the town limits. Bel Air continued to flourish and by 1870 the population had reached a total of 633 and in 1874 the town decided to incorporate in order to pay for local services that the county could not provide. Finally, a railroad between Bel Air and Baltimore arrived in 1883, which greatly assisted the local canning industry.

Harford County Jail

The Harford County Jail is located on land that has been owned by the county since 1782 when just over two-and-a-half acres of Aquila Scott's "Improvements Enlarged" was set aside for the construction of a courthouse and prison.

Boundaries as stated in the April 25, 1782 deed:

Beginning at a stone planted at the south corner of Scott's number 8 and running thence south thirty nine degrees east ten perches and one-half perch to another stone planted then north fifty-one degrees east forty perches to another stone planted then north thirty-nine degrees west ten perches and one half of a perch to another stone planted then with a straight line to the beginning.

The courthouse was completed in 1791 and a jail was most likely completed around this time as well. Documentary evidence from the 1798 Federal Tax states that a jail was in existence on Main Street across from the courthouse. Oral history claims the original jail was torn down and rebuilt several times throughout the nineteenth century. The current jail appears to have been constructed beginning in the 1830s.

Valuable historical research on jails from the eighteenth century and the nineteenth century helped determine that oldest section of this jail most likely dates to the second quarter of the nineteenth century. This research included photographs and inventory forms of jails in both Maryland and Virginia dating from as early as 1767 through the twentieth century. Additionally, Carl R. Lounsbury's book, *The Courthouses of Early Virginia*, provided background on jail construction during this period. Lounsbury is an Architectural Historian for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and is an expert on Virginia courthouses and their complexes including jails. His book includes a chapter called "Punishment and Prisons," which goes into detail using primary resources (particularly Court Orders) on what concerns officials had in creating a jail and how those concerns evolved over time and altered jail construction.

According to the County Treasury reports from 1940, W.G. Tovell, Inc. from Baltimore, Maryland was awarded the contract to renovate the jail. The renovations included gutting out the entire building, added new tooled steel cells, jail

⁵ Larew, p. 46.

⁶ Jennings & Herrick, A Map of Harford County, Maryland, 1858, Entirely From Original Surveys, (Philadelphia: L.N. Rosenthal, 1858).

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Harford County Jail Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

windows, corridors, lighting and plumbing. The wing for the housing of juveniles and two cells on the second floor for the housing of female prisoners was also added at this time. No information on W.G. Tovell, Inc. was available at the time of the survey.

A metal sign denoting the Van Dorn Iron Works was originally located on the door to the cell block controls. It is possible that W.G. Tovell, Inc. subcontracted to Van Dorn Iron Works the installation of the steel cells. The sign states: Van Dorn Cell Construction and Cell Door Locking Devices. The metal plate states that Van Dorn Iron Works was located in Cleveland, Ohio. The Van Dorn Company began in 1872 by Jason H. Van Dorn, who started a small iron fence business in Akron, Ohio. In 1878, Van Dorn moved the company to Cleveland and renamed it the Cleveland Wrought Iron Fence Company. Soon thereafter, this company had become the largest producer of jail cells in America. It was then renamed to the Van Dorn Iron Works Company in 1884. The company then developed as a structural-steel business and began production for automobile parts. After acquiring the Davies Can Company and the Colonial Plastics Manufacturing Company the Van Dorn Iron Works Company became involved in the container and plastics industry and then changed their name to the Van Dorn Company in 1964.

Much more research is needed to gain a clearer understanding of the evolution of the Harford County Jail. Local historian and Retired Harford County Police Officer, Mr. Terry Noye, is in the process of writing an in-depth history on the Harford County Jail and Sheriff's Department for publication.

Chain-of-Title

All information taken from the Bel Air Courthouse.

April 25, 1782

General Order of Court

Deed states that just over 2 ½ acres of Aquila Scott's Improvements Enlarged to be used for

purpose of building a courthouse and prison

Deed Book JLG H Folio 103

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HA-2063

Bel Air Courthouse, Land Records. Bel Air, MD

Harford County Historical Society. Vertical Files. Bel Air, MD.

Larew, Marilynn M. Bel Air: An Architectural and Cultural History, 1782-1945. Bel Air, MD: Town of Bel Air, MD, 1995. Lounsbury, Carl R. The Courthouses of Early Virginia: An Architectural History. Charlottesville, VA: UVA Press, 2005. The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History. Van Dorn Iron Works. https://ech.cwru.edu/ech-cgi/article.pl?id=VDDC (22 March 2005).

10. Geographical Data

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Harford County Jail is located at 45 South Main Street in the Third District of Harford County in the Town of Bel Air, Maryland and is associated with tax map 301 parcel 892.

11. Form Prepared by

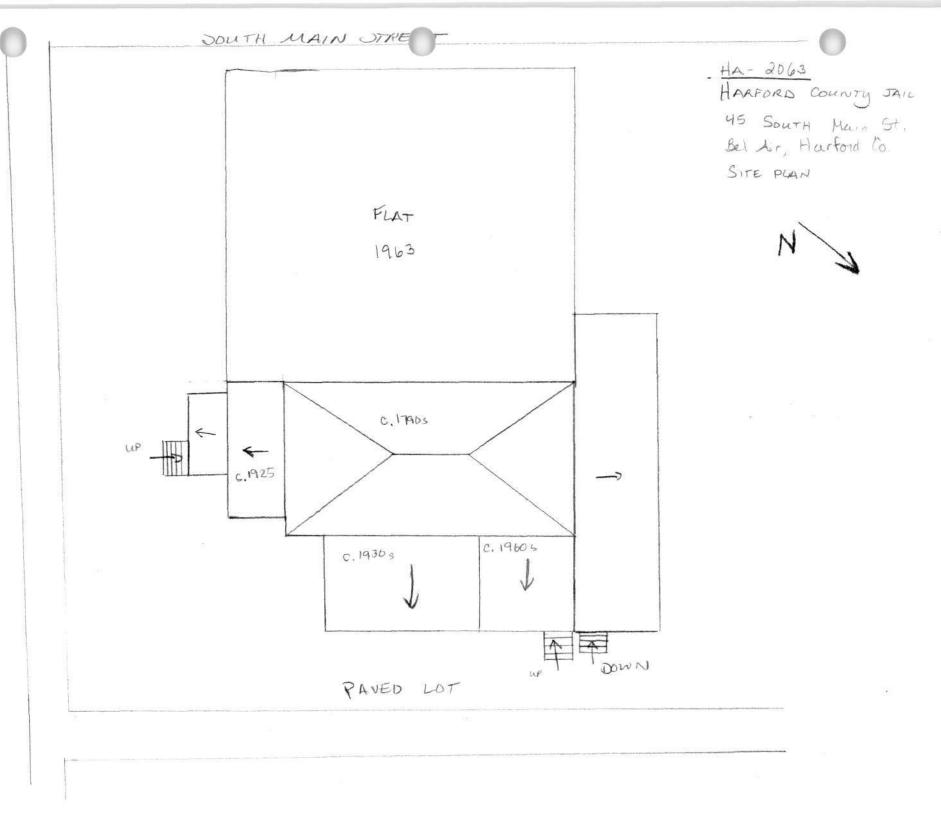
name/title	Kristie Baynard/Architectural Historian		
organization	Arcadia Preservation, LLC	date	March 8, 2005
street & number	1209 Powhatan Street	telephone	703.798.8124
city or town	Fredericksburg	state	VA

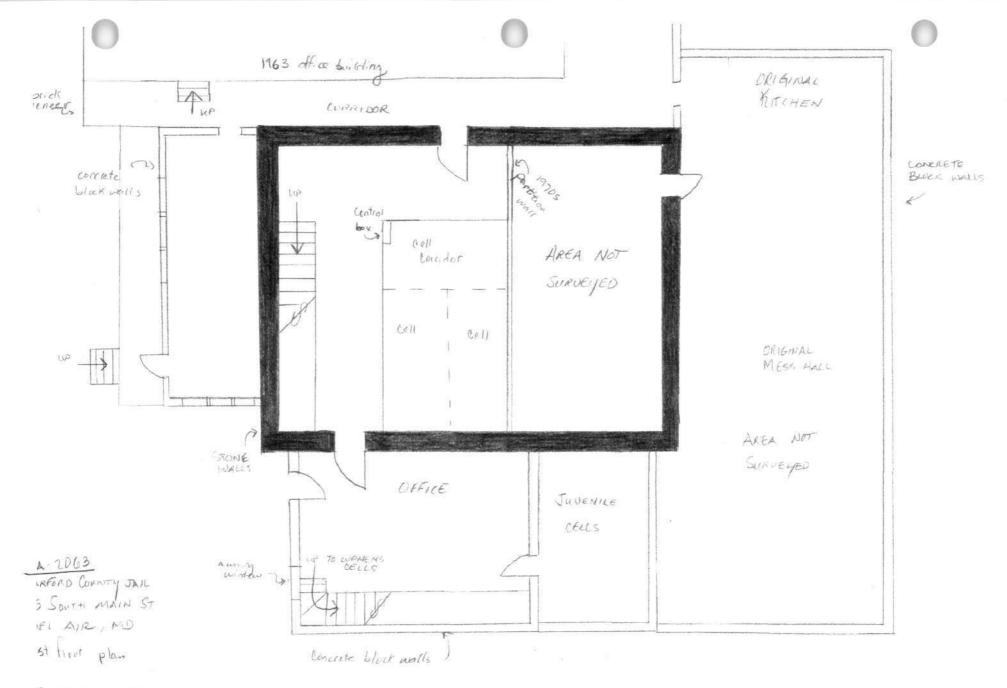
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

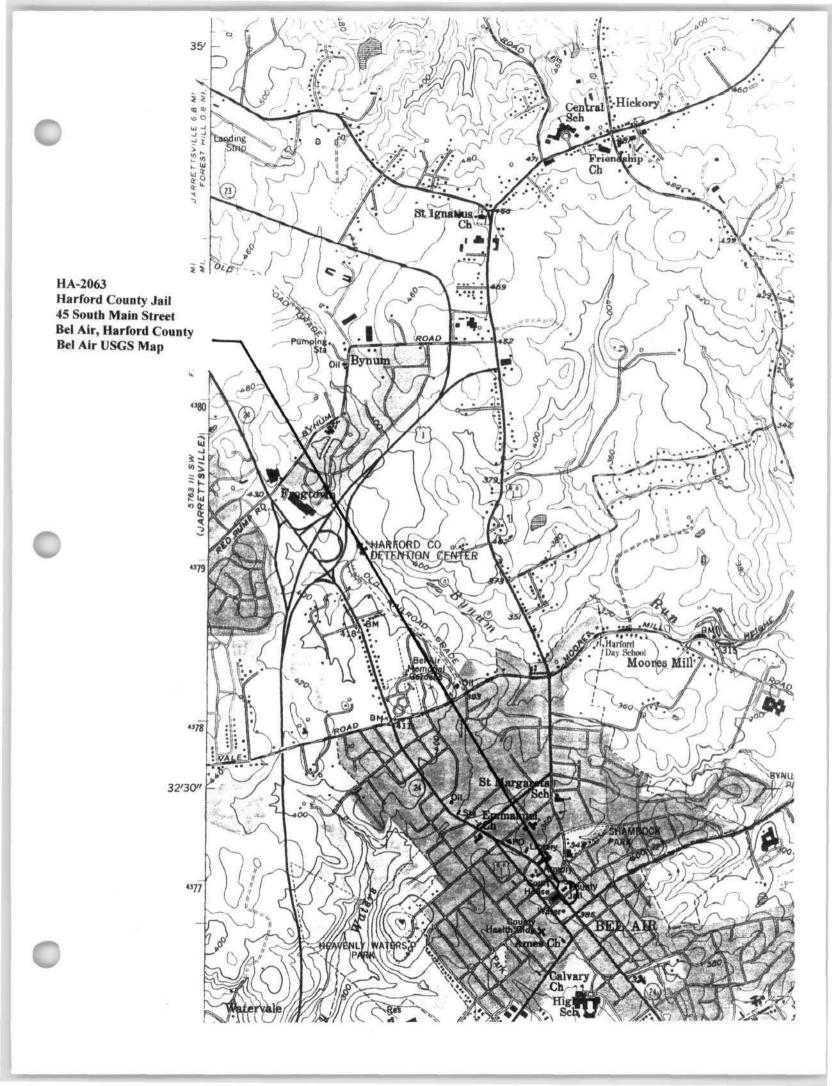
Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600





ORIGINAL JAIL

N/





HA-2063 HARFORD COUNTY JAIL 45 South Main Street BEL AIR, HARFORD COUNTY ARCADIA PRESERVATION 3/2005 MP SHPO Exterior, EAST CORNER, VIEW COOKING WEST



Harford County Jail
45 S. Main Street

Bel Air, Harford County, MD

ARCADIA PRESERVATION
1/2005

MD SHPO

Exterior, REAR ELEVATION, VIEW LODILING SOUTH

Hx-2063



Bel AIT, Harford County, MD ARCADIA PRESERVATION 1/2005 MD SHPD Exterior, WOMEN'S JAIL, VIEW LODKING WEST, NORTHEAST ELEVATION

3 01 111

HA-2063

Harford County Jail 45 S. MAIN STREET



HA-2063 Harford County Jail 45 S. Main Street Bel Air, Harford County, MD ARCADIA PRESERVATION 12005 MD SHPO EXERIOR, Harford CourtyOffice building, South CORNER



45 S. Main Street
Beldir, Harford County, MD

ARCADIA PRESERVATION

1/2005

MD SHPO

INTERIOR, MAIN BLOCK, 1st floor Stair, View looking NE

HA-2063

Harford County Jail



HA-2063
Harford County Jail
45 S., Main St.
Bel Air, Hurford County, MD.
ARCADIA PRESERVATION
1/2005
MD SHPO
INTERIOR, Main Jail, 1st floor, looking NORTH



HA-2063 Harford County Jail 45 S. Main Street Bel Air, Harford County, MD *RLADIA PRESERVATION 12005 MD SHPO INTERIOR, MAIN "jail, 2nd floor, prisoners corridor, view



Harford County Jail
45 S. Main Street
Bel Air, Harford County, MD
ARCADIA PRESERVATION
1/2005
MD SHPO
INTERIOR, MAIN BLOCK, 2nd Floor, Jail Cell INTERIOR, VIEW
LOOKING NE



HA-2063 Harford County Jail 45 S. Main Street Bel Air, Harford County, MD ARCADIA PRESERVATION 3/2005 MD SH90 INTERIOR. MAIN BLOCK, 2nd floor, Stair, New looking NE



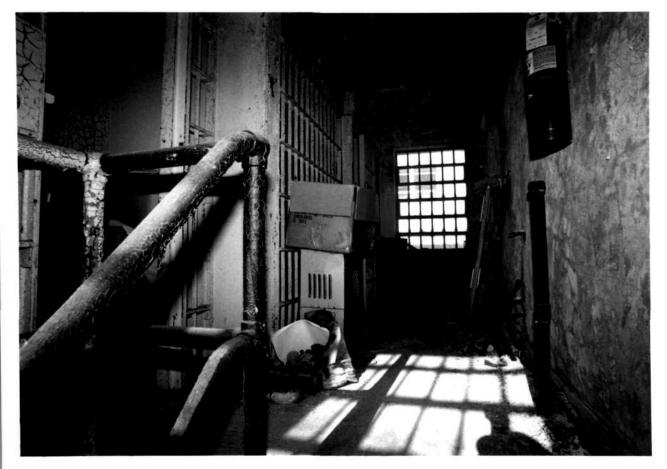
HA-2063 Horford County Jail 45 S. Main St. Bel Ar, Harford County, MD ARCADIA PRESERVATION 1/2005 Interior, women's jail, 1st floor, guard's office



Harford County Jail
45 S. Main Street
Bel Air, Harford County, MD
ARCADIA PRESERVATION

1/2005
MD SHPO
INTERIOR, WOMEN'S JAIL, 1st floor guard's office, View looking NE
11 of 12 towards Stair

HA- 2063



HA-2063
Harford County Jail
45 S. Main Street
Bel Air. Harford County, MD
ARCADIA PRESERVATION

3/2005
MD SHOO
INTERIOR, WOMEN'S JAIL, 2nd floor, View Looking New

12 M. J.



HA-2063
Harford County Jail
45 S. Main Street
Bel Air, Harford County, MD

ARCADIA PRESERVATION

3/2005
MD SHPO
ENTERIOR, WOMEN'S jail, 2nd Floor, New looking SE

13 A 14



Harford County Sail
45 S. Main Street
Bel Ail, Harford County, MD

ARCADYA PRESERVATION

3/ 2005
MD SHPD

INTERIOR, WOMEN'S JAIL, and floor, jail cell looking at Shower,

View looking SE

HA- 2063